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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. In an expansion joint cover having (a pair of
2 elongated frames), each of which is adapted to be secured
3 to a building member, one on one side of an expansion gap
4 and the other on the other side of the expansion gap, and
5 each of which has a planar support surface, and an
6 elongated cover that is adapted to span the expansion gap
7 and is supported on the support surfaces of the
8 respective frames for sliding movement of the frames
9 relative to the cover, [the improvement wherein the cover
10 includes a modular center plate made up of a plurality of
11 formed members, each formed member being rectangular in
12 plan and of uniform cross-section along an axis and
13 having side edges parallel to the axis, and the formed
14 members being arranged with their side edges adjacent
15 each other and with their ends overlying the support
16 surfaces of the frame members.

1 2. The improvement according to claim 1, wherein
2 adjacent pairs of formed members are coupled together by
3 joints between the side edges.

1 3. The improvement according to claim 1, wherein
2 adjacent pairs of formed members are coupled together by
3 slip joints between the side edges.

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4. The improvement according to claim 1, wherein all of the formed members of the modular center plate are of the same cross-section.

5. The improvement according to claim 1, wherein the modular center plate includes a continuous edge frame member affixed to each end of the plurality of formed members.

6. The improvement according to claim 1, wherein each of the formed members is an extrusion and has a continuous planar upper web portion and a plurality of spaced apart dependent ribs extending downwardly from the web portion.

7. The improvement according to claim 6, wherein each of the ribs is of inverted "T"-shape in cross-section.

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8. The improvement according to claim 1, wherein each of the formed members has (corrugations.)

9. The improvement according to claim 1, wherein each of the formed members has (a plurality of transversely spaced-apart planar upper web portions, a plurality of transversely spaced-apart planar lower web portions staggered between the upper web portions, and a rib

10. The improvement according to claim 9, wherein the upper web portions of all of the formed members are coplanar and the lower web portions of all of the formed members are coplanar.

11. The improvement according to claim 10, wherein the cover further includes a planar sheet supported by and attached to the upper web portions of all of the formed members.

12. The improvement according to claim 9, wherein the rib portions lie obliquely to the planes of the web portions and define with the lower web portions dovetail-shaped grooves facing upwardly.

1 cont (13.) In an expansion joint cover having a pair of
2 elongated frames, each of which is adapted to be secured
3 to a building member, one on one side of an expansion gap
4 and the other on the other side of the expansion gap, and
5 each of which has a planar support surface, and an
6 elongated cover that is adapted to span the expansion gap
7 and is supported on the support surfaces of the
8 respective frames for sliding movement of the frames
9 relative to the cover, the improvement wherein the cover

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cont.

includes a modular center plate that is made up of a plurality of identical formed members, each formed member being rectangular in plan and of uniform cross-section along an axis and having side edges parallel to the axis and the formed members being arranged with their side edges adjacent each other and with their ends overlying the support surfaces of the frames, and a continuous end frame member affixed to each end of the plurality of formed members.

14. The improvement according to claim 13, wherein each end frame member includes spaced-apart upper and lower flanges forming a groove and the formed members are affixed to the end frame members by reception of end portions thereof in the grooves.

15. The improvement according to claim 14, wherein each end of the modular center plate is supported on the support surface of the frame member by the lower flange of the end frame member.

16. The improvement according to claim 13, wherein each end of the modular center plate is supported on the support surface of the frame member by a rod of a rigid low friction polymeric material received in a partially open socket in the end frame member.

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1 17. The improvement according to claim 13, wherein each
2 of the formed members is an extrusion and has a
3 continuous planar upper web portion and a plurality of
4 spaced apart dependent ribs extending downwardly from the
5 web portion.

1 18. The improvement according to claim 17, wherein each
2 of the ribs is of inverted "T"-shape in cross-section.

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cont 19. The improvement according to claim 13, wherein each
2 of the formed members is corrugated.

1 20. The improvement according to claim 13, wherein each
2 of the formed members has a plurality of transversely
3 spaced-apart planar upper web portions, a plurality of
4 transversely spaced-apart planar lower web portions
5 staggered between the upper web portions, and a rib
6 portion joining each edge of each upper web portion to an
7 edge of each lower web portion.